

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-20 are pending and are rejected.

Claims 1 and 8 are amended. Claims 3, 4, 10, and 11 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-12, and 14-20 under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,867,226 ("Wehmeyer") in view of US2002/0073425 ("Arai"), applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 8 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention, and submits that these claims are patentable over these two references for the reasons discussed below. Claims 3, 4, 10, and 11 are cancelled and their recited features have been incorporated into claims 1 and 8.

In particular, amended claim 1 recites a method of processing program guide information, comprising the steps of recording viewing statistics based on topics; entering user processing request information; processing program guide information based on entered user processing request information and the viewing statistics; and displaying processed result, matching the topics in the recorded viewing statistics, in a dedicated channel, wherein the processed result includes at least two programs in a first time slot, only one of the at least two programs is displayed in the first time slot under the dedicated channel, and when the one of the at least two programs is highlighted, others of the at least two programs are also displayed. Support for the underlined features can be found, for example, on page 7, lines 8-14 and FIG. 13.

Applicant submits that Wehmeyer and Arai, considered singly and in combination, do not disclose or suggest a method of processing program guide

information including the steps of displaying processed result, matching the topics in the recorded viewing statistics, in a dedicated channel, wherein the processed result includes at least two programs in a first time slot, only one of the at least two programs is displayed in the first time slot under the dedicated channel, and when the one of the at least two programs is highlighted, others of the at least two programs are also displayed, as recited in amended claim 1.

As admitted in the Office Action, Wehmeyer fails to disclose displaying the result in a dedicated channel, and the Office Action relies on Arai, which discloses a receiving apparatus capable of displaying a personalized channel collecting user's preferable or receiver's own program information in addition to common channels, to cure this defect. However, assuming that the modification of Wehmeyer is desirable and operational, the modification still does not disclose or suggest that a processed result includes at least two programs in a first time slot, only one of the at least two programs is displayed in the first time slot under the dedicated channel, and when the one of the at least two programs is highlighted, others of the at least two programs are also displayed, as recited in amended claim 1.

The Office Action, however, relies on FIG. 1 of Wehmeyer, stating that when Zulu in FIG. 1 of Wehmeyer is highlighted, other programs in that time slot are clearly displayed. See page 5, the third full paragraph of the Office Action, where the Office Action rejects claims 4 and 11. Note that the second recitation of "Arai" in that paragraph should be "Wehmeyer."

However, other programs in FIG. 1 of Wehmeyer are not included in a processed result from processing program guide information based on user entered processing request, as recited in amended claim 1. Even assuming that the channel, CINE, that

includes the highlighted program ZULU, is the dedicated channel in Arai, the other programs are not programs arranged in the dedicated channel at the same time slot as the program ZULU. As shown in FIGs. 3-5 of Arai, the apparatus can map only one program in each time slot in a dedicated channel, and thus can display only one program per time slot on the dedicated channel, whether a displayed program in a particular time slot has been highlighted or not. As such, the modification still does not disclose or suggest that a processed result includes at least two programs in a first time slot, only one of the at least two programs is displayed in the first time slot under the dedicated channel, and when the one of the at least two programs is highlighted, others of the at least two programs are also displayed, as recited in amended claim 1.

In light of the fact that Killian and Arai, considered singly and in combination, do not disclose or suggest a method of processing program guide information, wherein a processed result includes at least two programs in a first time slot, only one of the at least two programs is displayed in the first time slot under a dedicated channel, and when the one of the at least two programs is highlighted, others of the at least two programs are also displayed, as recited in amended claim 1, applicant submits that amended claim 1, and dependent claims 2, 5-7, and 18-20 are patentable over these two references.

Amended claim 8 recites similar features as recited in amended claim 1. As such, applicant submits that amended claim 8, and dependent claims 9, and 12-17, are patentable over the two references for similar reasons discussed above with respect to amended claim 1.

The Office Action also rejects claims 6 and 13 as being unpatentable over Wehmeyer in view of Arai, further in view of US 6,133,909 ("Schein"), applicant submits

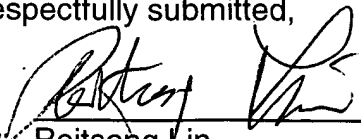
that these claims are patentable over these references for their respective dependence from amended claims 1 and 8 because Schein fails to cure the defects of Wehmeyer and Arai as applied to amended claims 1 and 8.

Schein discloses a method for searching a guide using program characteristics, such as one shown in FIG. 8, but fails to disclose or suggest a method of processing program guide information, wherein a processed result includes at least two programs in a first time slot, only one of the at least two programs is displayed in the first time slot under a dedicated channel, and when the one of the at least two programs is highlighted, others of the at least two programs are also displayed, as recited in amended claim 1, and similar features as recited in amended claim 8.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,


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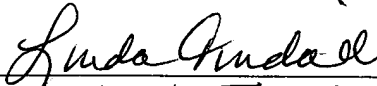
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I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to [Mail Stop RCE], Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

Date

1/7/2005


Linda Tindal